

## DRAMA

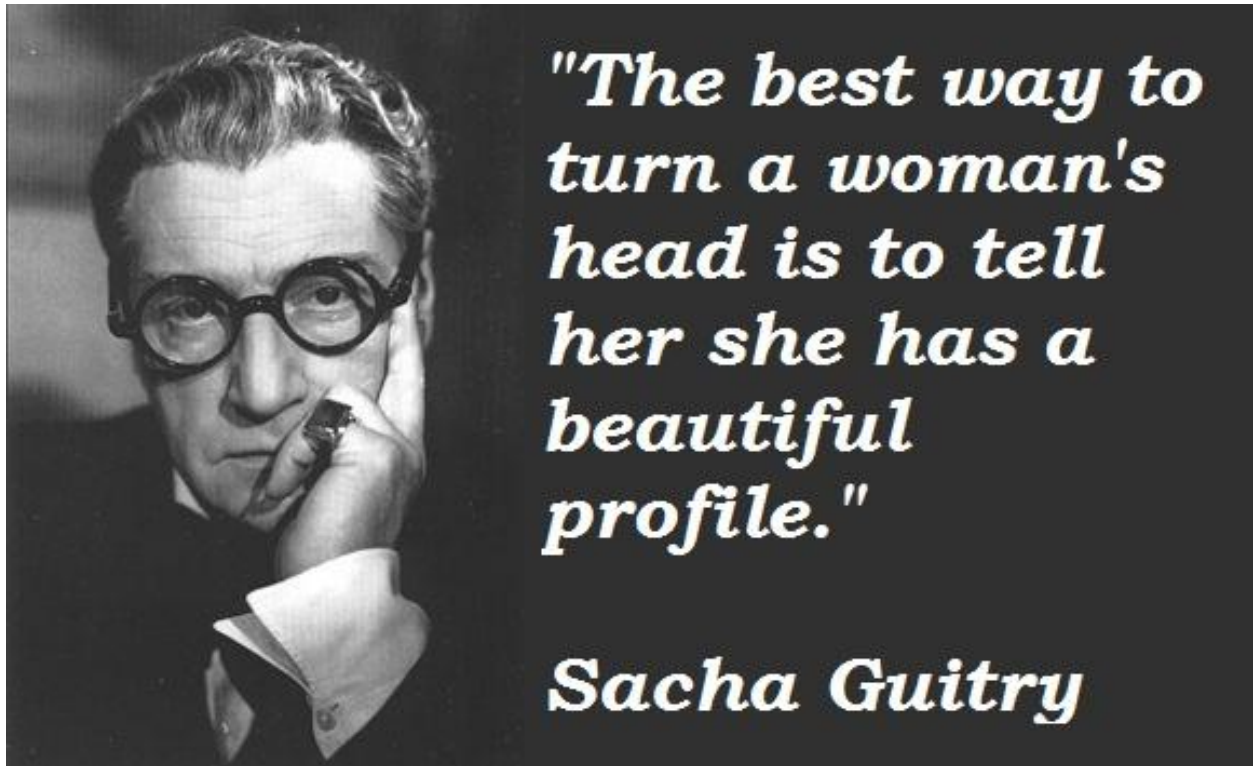
### VILLA FOR SALE

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#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

- *Sacha Guitry (1885-1957) son of a French actor, was born in st. petersburg (later laningrad) which accounts for his fathers profession, he become a writer of plays and films . Some of his own experiences with people engaged in film production may be reflected in villa for sale.*



## DRAMA

### VILLA FOR SALE

#### AT A SIGHT.....

The one act play, "Villa for sale" is set in France. The humorous play revolves round Juliette's villa. The main character include Juliette, the owner of the villa, Gaston and Jeanne the couple who are interested in purchasing the villa and Mrs. A L Smith an arrogant actress is also interested in buying the villa as it is near Paramount studio where she is going to shoot some films.

In this drama Juliette puts up her villa for sale. Jeanne sees a placard 'Villa for sale' hanging outside the gate of the villa. She wants to buy the villa for her parents. She has been insisting on it since one month. Gaston is very business-minded, very shrewd and he expresses his displeasure in making any investment on his wife's family. So, whenever she joins any conversation with him pertaining to purchase of villa, Gaston explains his unwillingness to buy a villa.

But, Jeanne is firm in her decision to buy a villa. They reach the villa and have a look at

it. Gaston who is not interested to buy the villa finds faults with it. He says the garden looks like a yard with a patch of grass in the middle and the salon is small. On the other hand, Jeanne has a good opinion about villa. Gaston is totally irritated by now and makes it very clear that he has no intention of purchasing the villa and is about to leave.

At that very moment, the owner of the villa enters. She pretends to be very proud of her villa and single-handedly announces that the villa perfectly suited their personalities. She flatters the young couple, calls them 'exceptional' that the villa was according to their taste. After much bargaining Juliette reduces the price from 2,50,000 francs to 2,00,000 francs. Gaston rejects and is about to leave when Jeanne surprises him that she wants to see the upper floor and finally decide whether to purchase the villa or not.

When the two women go up, Gaston is left alone. While he waits, Mrs. A L Smith the American actress arrives to look at the villa. While she is conversing with him, Gaston realizes that Mrs. Smith has mistaken him as the owner of the villa and wanted to make a deal with him. He senses to make some money by this deal. He acts as owner of the villa and tells Mrs. Smith that the villa will cost 300000 francs. Immediately she hands over to Gaston a cheque of 300000 francs. She leaves telling him that her lawyer will complete the rest of the transaction.

Juliette and his wife returns after looking at the top floor, she says that she has lost the idea of buying the villa but Gaston explains to her the Villa will not only allow her parents staying with them but also allow them to enjoy country life after retirement. Then, he immediately hands over a cheque of 200000 francs to Juliette.

Juliette is still unaware that Gaston has sold the villa to Mrs. A L Smith. Gaston's ingenuity is later discovered by JeaThe one act play, "Villa for sale" is set in France. The humorous play revolves round Juliette's villa. The main character include Juliette, the owner of the villa, Gaston and Jeanne the couple who are interested in purchasing the villa and Mrs. A L Smith an arrogant actress is also interested in buying the villa as it is near Paramount studio where she is going to shoot some films.

## CHARACTER SKETCH

**Juliette:** She was a business lady and hard times were going on for her so she decided to sell her villa. She acted like a fool and seemed to be very trustful to her first customer Jeanne and Gaston which return in the loss.

### *Character sketch of Juliette*

*Juliette was a cunning lady. She was a good dealer. She knew how to do business. First thing is that she didn't let her tongue slip and told a lot good about Jeanne and Gaston. The villa was a big headache for her and she wanted to sell it at any rate, even if it is the cheapest rate. But while coming to the point she didn't keep her word. She demanded a higher amount. But she is a good dealer.*

• **Gaston:** He was an opportunist. He understood the situation very well and took the full advantage of the situation for his own profit. He instantly made a profit of one hundred thousand francs only by taking advantage of the situation and some acting.

### *Character sketch of Gaston*

*Gaston's character was that of a witty, clever and a selfish man. He doesn't care about other's feelings but jumps on every opportunity that earns him wealth. He is a specimen of meanness, greediness, craftiness, cleverness and dishonesty. He is non co-operative and uncaring for his wife. He is a cheater in striking a deal with Mrs. Al Smith, who was a stupid lady, in a hurry to buy the villa. Through his greed, craftiness and black villainy nature he has made 1,00,000 francs without spending a single penny.*

• **Jeanne:** She was a nice and simple lady. Although she tried to rebel against her husband, She knows the value of relationships and emotions. She is exactly the opposite of her husband who is cunning and opportunist. She was very eager to buy the house for her parents. This shows that she was very caring towards her family and wanted everybody to live peacefully and comfortably. Her conversations with Juliette show that she was kind hearted and friendly as well.

### *Character sketch of Jeanne*

*she is a very cunning lady. the way she got Gaston in her pocket was very funny. she actually wanted the house for her parents but she was not agreeing with her fault although her fault was out. but she was very sensitive too and a caring women. she cared about her parents*

• **Mrs. Al Smith:** She was an American woman who was trying her hand at movies and therefore wanted to have a piece of land to build a bungalow near to Joinville studios. She was also a very busy woman. She also thought French people were silly as they had to consult many people before taking any decision or taking care of their grandparents.